ROOT TOOK TO ALBANY.

PLATT WON'T HAVE IT, BECAUSE IT PROVIDES FOR SECRET VOTING, AND BLACK HAS NOT INDORSED IT-SOME OF ITS PARTS OP-

POSED BY INDEPENDENT REPUBLICANS. Albany, Feb. 24 (Special),-"Perhaps there won't be any Primary Reform law after all." remarked Senator Platt's newspaper organ over a month ago in a careless sort of way, and yet with a chuckle as though aware of the Senator's opposition to any bill for the improvement of the primaries. With Senator Platt waiting to stab any genuine Primary Reform bill, reformers have had need to take care. It is a satisfaction, therefore, to know that Mr. Platt has been

unmasked. Elihu Root came here a day or so ago with a bill from a committee of the Union League Club containing many provisions intended to purify primary elections. A little ahead of him arrived Edward Lauterbach and John Sabine Smith, who were here clearly in Mr. Platt's interest, although posing as representatives of the New-York organization of the Republican party. Root submitted his bill and had a long talk about primary reform with Mr. Black. Then Mr. Lauterbach and Mr. Smith had a talk with the Governor on the same subject. They made it clear to him that Mr. Platt and the machine will be opposed to the Union League Club bill so long as it provides for a secret ballot at pri-

UNFAIR OPPOSITION.

People were not surprised to hear this morn ing after Mr. Smith and Mr. Lauterbach had to accept the Union League Club's bill at present. Some criticisms of the measure have been made by Independent Republicans, but an exjections to it as a whole are so serious as to its secret ballot plan are certainly excellent.

It provides that on any one of the days of this, a voter may enroll or not, as he pleases. | no property."

The right of an elector to enroll as a member his option, file with the Board of Inspectors a after provided. If he shall file such declaration, or if he answer each of such questions in the affirmative, he shall be immediately enrolled, as if he had not been challenged.

PRESENT INTENTION THE QUALIFICATION.

The declaration referred to states that it is "the present intention" of the voter "to support election the nominees of such party for State or National offices," and that he has "not enrolled with or participated in the primaries of any other party since the last day of general elections of the party since the last day of general elections of the party since the last day of general elections of the party since the last day of general elections of the party since the last day of general elections of the party since the last day of general elections of the party since the last day of general elections of the party since the party for State or National offices," and that he has "not enrolled by sengers is Miss Grace Spencer, daughter of Brigadier-General Bird W. Spencer, inspector of ride practice for New Jersey, who has been studying music in Paris.

The vessel's crew numbers 175. She has 234

"the annual primary day," and the primary election of delegates to conventions is to take place on that day. There is to be an additional primary day this year, in June, in consequence of the election of Governor taking place, and at PORTS SECURED BY HER IN CHINA WILL RE these primaries all voters who were registered last fall are to be permitted to vote. Perhaps Mr. Platt is displeased with this feature of the

The act provides that additional primary elecceding years, or by voters who have come of age

expense of this extra day of registration for primary election purposes would be a county

GOLD DEMOCRATS BARRED. One of the grounds of the opposition of some

independent Republicans to the measure is that it does not recognize the right of Gold Democrats, of members of the Social-Labor party or of Prohibitionists to hold officia, primaries It says:

organization which at the last preceding election of a Governor polled at least 3 per centum of the entire vote cast in the State for Governor. The following number of votes were cast at the last election of Governor:

Frank S. Black, Republican.
Wibur F. Porter, Democrat.
Dankel G. Griffin, Gold Democrat.
William W. Smith Prohibitionist.
Howard Balkam, Socialist-Labor.

1.424.549 Three per cent of 1,424,549 is 42,736. It would eem, therefore, that the Union League Club bill rules out the Gold Democrats, the Prohibitionists and the Socialist-Labor voters as members of any "party." If they hold primaries they must hold them at their own expense. Doubtless this provision against the Gold Democrats would mightily please William J. Bryan. It would also probably please the leaders of Tammany Hall, who do not wish any Democratic organization to be created in New-York City except one controlled by them. A good many independent Republicans who favor a common registration day for all voters would not like it.

ANNUAL PRIMARY DAY. The Union League measure provides that the seventh Tuesday before the day of general election in every year shall be known as the annual primary day, and in all cities to which the act is applicable there is to be held on such day (A) the primary election for delegates to all political conventions except (1) delegates to State and National conventions; (2) delegates to conventions, who by the rules and regulations of a political party are to be chosen by other of a political party are to be chosen by other conventions and not at primaries, and (3) delegates to conventions called to meet prior to such annual primary day to nominate a candidate or candidates to be voted for on some other day than the day of general election, and also (3) the primary election for all candidates for public office to be voted for at the next ensuing general election, who, by the rules and regulations of a political party, are to be chosen at primary elections and not at conventions; and also (5) unless otherwise provided by the act the primaries for all party committeemen who are to be chosen by the electors of a political party and not at conventions.

party and not at conventions.

Ender this plan the "primary day" this year would be September 15. CHANGES SINCE PAVEY SAW IT

Senator Pavey had this to say to-day about the Primary bills: "I dld not attend all the meetings of the Conference Committee at the Union League Club, and did not see the final results of their work until after their sugges-tions had been submitted to the Governor and Mr. Lauterbach. I do not know their reason for thanging the definition of a political party so

Continued on third page.

ITALY TO OVERAWE HAYTI.

FEATURES OF THE PRIMARY BILL MR. ENERGETIC ACTION TO COMPEL THE BLACK REPUBLIC TO MAKE REPARATION.

London, Feb. 25.-A dispatch from Rome

The Government has decided upon energetic action to compel Hayti to make reparation for filegal sequestration of property of an Italian steamer at Port au Prince.

Italy has long had claims against Hayti, and it is alleged, she has frequently endeavored to press to a settlement. The claim referred to in the foregoing dispatch has been pending since 1808. It is the case of a merchant at Port de Paix, whose vessel and cargo, worth \$80,000, were, it is alleged filegally seized and sold by the Hay-tian Government.

NO NEWS OF LA CHAMPAGNE.

HER AGENTS, HOWEVER, NOT ALARMED-THEY BELIEVE THAT THERE HAS BEEN

AN ACCIDENT TO THE MACHINERY. The French Line steamer La Champagne had steamers sailing over the course which she took have arrived in port, but they did not report sighting her at any time. The agents of the line are still most hopeful of her safe arrival, and do not appear worried over the fact that she is nearly five days overdue. They will, however, send for the list of passengers on the steamer some time to-day.

The steamers Germanic and Trave, which came in yesterday, took the same southern course, and neither saw anything of La Champassed her in the night. In this case, there can be nothing seriously wrong with the vessel, as left town that the Governor had concluded not her night signals of distress, had there been an accident, would have been even more noticeable

The officials of the company are now fully satamination of it does not indicate that their ob- issied that something more than an ordinary storm has delayed the vessel, and the agent, M. require its rejection. Its registration system and | Bocande, said yesterday afternoon: "It is not could delay the Champagne so long. Neither is registration in the cities of New-York, Buffalo, the hypothesis that she is towing in another ves-Rochester, Syracuse, Troy and Albany a voter | sel tenable, for the Champagne is a mail steammay have his name recorded as a member of a ship and must make the best time possible, and political party. There is no compulsion about accordingly works under the rule, 'save life, but

"The only reasonable excuse for her slow time is, then, that she has mot an accident to her maof a party as provided, shall be subject to chinery, and, like the Gascogne in a similar exchallenge, and if challenged the elector may, at perience, is making repairs in midocean. I can honestly say that we feel no apprehension for written declaration in the form given in this her ultimate safety. In this spirit we have been section, or he shall answer the questions herein- reassuring those who have friends upon her and quite naturally are worried."

The officers of La Champagne are: Captain, M. Poirot; first officer, De Monvel; second officer, Montay; third officer, Houvyet; fourth officer, Bellange; purser, Philippe; chief engineer, Val-lin; second engineer, Lagnion; third engineer, Martel; fourth engineer, Le Piniec; steward, La-

noire, and surgeon, Jullian. overdue vessel are forty-eight generally at the next ensuing State or National first cabin, fifty-three second cabin and 203 steerage passengers. Among the first-class passengers is Miss Grace Spencer, daughter of

tion."

The seventh Tuesday before the day of the general election in every year is to be known as steel. She was fitted with new engines and thoroughly overhauled three years ago.

RUSSIA'S PLEDGE TO ENGLAND.

OPEN TO THE WORLD-THE CHINESE LOAN.

London, Feb. 24.-The Parliamentary Secretary for the Foreign Office, George N. Curzon, bill. Probably he would like a new enrolment. replying in the House of Commons to-day to Far too many Seth Low Republicans now have a question, said Russia's pledge respecting free their names on the poll lists in New-York City | ports in North China was conveyed in the following note:

"Count Muravieff (the Russian Minister for tions shall be held in June of each year when a Foreign Affairs) has expressed great surprise Governor is to be elected. For thirty days be- at the agitation which appeared to prevail in fore that election names may be aided to the England, both in the press and in official cirrolls by voters who were registered the two pre- cies, on the subject of recent events in China, where English and Russian interests could not ceding years, or by voters who have come of age since the registration days of the previous year.

Mr. Root's bill apparently provides that the inspectors of election shall hold a special registration on the Tuesday following the first Monday of next June. This special registration day, if this act passes, will be June 7, 1898. All the act passes, will be June 7, 1898. All the act passes, will be june 7, registration for

Half the Chinese loan, amounting to i8,000,000, was fully underwritten this afternoon. Some of the applications had to be rejected. The issue price is 90 and the interest from the loan is per cent. It will be offered publicly a week

PRINCE HENRY LANDS AT SINGAPORE. Singapore, Feb. 24.—The German warship Deutschlanded and was received by the Governor, whose guest he will be during his stay here. The German Club of Singapure gave a fete in honor of the Prince to-night.

SELF-GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S CONCESSIONS TO THE HOME

London, Feb. 3t.-The Secretary of State for the Colonies, Joseph Chamberlain, as set forth in a Parliamentary paper just issued, proposes that in future the differences between the British South Africa Company and the natives must be submitted to the Secretary of State, whose decision will binding. In addition, the Administrative Counbe binding. In addition, the Administrative Council of Southern Rhodesia is to be augmented by four elected members to the Council and sufficient of the company's nominees to insure the company a majority. Further, while the responsible expenditure of the commandant of the forces will be paid by the Crown, he will cease to be a Deputy-Commissioner, and the control of the High Commissioner will be based on information from the Imperial Resident Commissioner.

Mr. Chamberian has also agreed that there shall be separate Administrators for Matabeleland and Mashonaland, and that there shall be only one Executive Council.

The Government of Cape Colony has approved Mr. Chamberian's proposals, regarding them as clearing the way for self-government and the probable eventual Federal Union of the Cape.

CHAMBERLAIN'S PRAISE OF FRANCE.

London, Feb. 24.-In reply to a question as to the West African situation, Mr. Chamberlain said in the House of Commons to-day that he expected a friendly and satisfactory settlement, but, under the agreement with France he could not give de tails until the regotiations in Paris were ended. tails until the regotiations in Paris were ended. The difficulties, he observed, had not arisen regarding the delimitation of the Say-Borua line, but in the delimitation west of the Niger. Speaking generally, he would say that the competition of other nations had compelled Great Britain to adopt a more forward policy in the Hinterlands of her African colonies. From the French point of view, he could only admire French policy, which had carved out for France an enormous empire, from which she would in the future derive well-deserved benefits.

THE QUEEN IN LONDON.

London, Feb. 24.-Queen Victoria arrived in tow to-day, and will held a drawing-room to-morrow.

Her Majesty drove from the railroad station to the
Palace in semi-state, and was heartly cheered on
her way there by the crowds in the streets.

E. H. SOTHERN IN A NEW PLAY. Rochester, Feb. 24.-E. H. Sothern produced his new romantic play, "The Head of the House," by Louis Evan Shipman and Glen McDonough, at the Lycaum here this evening. The play is based on Thackeray's "Henry Esmond" and follows the

THE SOUTHWESTERN LIMITED. A fast limited train to St. Louis and Cincinnati without an excess fare, via New-York Central, Lake Shore and Big Four route. Most comfort-able train; leaves Grand Central Station-centre of hotel district—every day at 1 p. m.—Advt VIZCAYA TO SAIL TO-DAY.

TO LEAVE PORT THIS AFTERNOON IF HER COAL IS ALL ON.

DELAYED BY REPAIRS TO HER MACHINERY-TAKING ON QUANTITIES OF PROVISIONS-

OFFICERS ENTERTAINED BY THE

The cruiser Vizcaya will lift her anchor this afternoon and start on her voyage for Havana. At least this was the statement made by Sefior Baldasano, the Spanish Consul-General, when he was seen at his home late last evening. The stay of the Spaniard at this port was unexpectedly lengthened by reason of the discovery of several slight damages to her machinery. The original intention was for her to remain here one week, but the various incidents arising in the last few days caused this order to be countermanded, and she was ordered to sail on Wednesday. She was to take on board coal enough to last her for her trip to Havana. and this programme was about to be carried out when Captain Eulate, in having all made shipshape for her sailing, discovered that some parts of her machinery were defective.

While the defects discovered would not have prevented her salling, as they could all have been repaired on board the vessel by his own the utmost care should be taken and everything put into the best of order before he attempted to round Cape Hatteras, which he believes to be a most dangerous locality. Accordingly, he arranged to have the parts repaired here. At the same time he decided to have the coal bunkto take a large quantity of provisions on board. The repairs will be completed by noon to-day, and if all the coal arranged for is on board at that time, the cruiser will sail some time in the

In speaking of the repairs last night, Consul-General Baldasano said to a Tribune reporter. "It is not true that the steering gear of the Vizcaya was seriously damaged. Even if it had been damaged, the ship has both the ordinary and steam steering apparatus, and could have proceeded to sea, and there had the parts of the steam gear replaced by her own men. The whole delay was caused by the careful attention of Captain Eulate, who desired to have everything in the most perfect working order before he left this port, and therefore he took extraordinary precautions. I think that the Vizcaya will sail some time between 2 and 4 o'clock this afternoon.

ENTERTAINING THE OFFICERS.

Consul-General Baldasano was entertaining a number of the officers of the vessel at a farewell dinner at his home when seen by the reporter last night. These officers all expressed their admiration for New-York City and its magnificent morning and had spent the day in sight-seeing. While they praised everything, they showed both by their actions and words that they were really glad to leave this port, owing to the many restrictions that had been placed upon them, including the police guard for their vessel as well as for themselves, whenever they came ashore.

In regard to this police and naval guard, it has been said that many persons have been able to evade it and get on board the Vizcaya without the pass issued by the Consul-General and Cantain Fullate. A number asserted vester-

and Captain Eulate. A number asserted yester-day that they had been aboard the vessel on Wednesday and had talked with Captain Eu-late, going even so far as to quote him. In regard to these statements, Consul-General Baldasano said last night: "It is absolutely untrue that any person was able to get on board the Vizcaya without a pass, and those who say they did, are simply making that statement for the sake of notoriety. It is also untrue that Captain Eulate gave any public interviews on Wednesday, and I have every reason to believe that the only newspaper representative on board the vessel on that day was the reporter of The

Tribune."
Señor Baldasano, accompanied by Señor Don perature is below seventy. Señor Espa, paymaster of the Spanish Naval Commission in New-York, and a reporter visited the Vizcaya yesterday afternoon. The warship's steam cutter awaited the party near the pier at Tompkinsville, Staten Island, in charge of a steam cutter awaited the party near the pier at Tompkinsville, Staten Island, in charge of a midshipman. A guard of honor was drawn up on the deck of the Spaniard and the Consulgeneral and party were warmly received by Captain Eulate and his staff. When the party left the ship, a guard of honor was again drawn up near the starboard gangway, the cutter carrying the visitors back to Tompkinsville. Several other visitors were on board vesterday,

but the marine pairol continued as active as ever, circling around the big cruiser, and keep-ing back all those who had not the requisite passes to visit the ship.

THE CAPTAIN PLEASED.

Captain Eulate expressed himself as greatly pleased with his visit, in company with the Consul-General, to Admiral Bunce and Major-General Wesley Merritt and Colonel Worth, on Governor's Island. The frank and warm reception accorded him, he said, was most pleasing. He expressed, also, his regrets that the visit which he and his officers had made to New-York had been overshadowed by the awful dis-

MRS. W. C. WHITNEY IMPROVING.

A REASSURING MESSAGE FROM AIKEN RECEIVED IN THIS CITY.

that there is any change in Mrs. Whitney's condi-tion at 9 o'clock to-night, it is for the better. Dr. Dana arrived this morning on a special train, and held a consultation with the other physicians, but the result of the conference was not made known, It was announced this evening that Mrs. Whitney was resting much easier, and her friends in the household are much more cheerful, but there is still

the evidence of paralysis.

Dr. William T. Bull left here for New-York tonight. Dr. Dana will remain with Dr. MaGahan, The wound in Mrs Whitney's forehead was stitched up by Dr. McGahan and is getting along nicely. At midnight it was said that Mrs. Whitney hoped this would wear off when she recovered from the nervous shock. was still paralyzed on the left side, but the doctors

William C. Whitney in this city, the butler said last night that a telegram from Alken, S. C., had been received at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon saying

GLADSTONE TO UNDERGO AN OPERATION.

AN EFFORT TO RELIEVE THE AGED STATESMAN

London, Feb. 24.-"The St. James's Gazette" this London, Feb. 41 afternoon says it is informed that Mr. Gladstone will shortly undergo an operation to alleviate the pain caused by necross of the bore of the nose, from which, it is alleged, some of the specialists

TRYING TO CLOSE COREY'S NEW "CLUB."

THE PROPRIETOR OF THE BELDEN, ONCE THE HAYMARKET, AGAIN ARRESTED.

Edward C. Corey, the proprietor of the Haymarket, at Sixtl-ave, and Thirlieth-st, which is now being conducted under a charter issued to the Belder Club, was arrested last night and taken to the West Thirtieth-at, station. The arrest was made upon evidence secured by Detectives Smith and Quinn, a warrant having been issued by Magistrate Deuel in the Jefferson Market Court. The istrate Deuel in the Jenerson Market Court. The charge is keeping a resort for dissolute women. Corey was almost immediately bailed out.

The Haymarket was conducted for several months as the Gramercy Club, and held nightly "receptions," which lasted into the day if the proprietor so desired. The police under Capitain Chapman made several efforts to close the place, and after a considerable time managed to have the charter of the "club" declared wold. Corey promptly applied for and received a certificate for the Relden Club.

THE PRIEDRICH DER GROSSE SIGHTED The steamer Friedrich der Gross, Captain Eichel.

READY TO LEAVE HAVANA. MINISTER WOODFORD'S BANQUET. MORE RUMORS PUT TO REST

THE MAINE COURT OF INQUIRY ABOUT FINISHED ITS WORK AT THE WRECK.

CHAPLAIN CHIDWICK AND OTHERS EXAMINED YESTERDAY-DIVERS CLOSELY QUESTIONED -STRICT SILENCE STILL MAIN-

TAINED BY THE BOARD.

Havana, Feb. 24.-The Court of Inquiry held its usual sessions to-day. Captain Sampson reports that Chaplain Chidwick was examined as to his personal experiences at the time of the disaster to the Maine, and that the testimony was taken of the captain of a British bark in the harbor and the superintendent of the West Indian Oil Works, across the bay at Regla, both of whom witnessed the explosion. Mr. the British engineer of the floating dock in the harbor, wrote a letter to the court, but, it is said, did not say anything material to what was known. At the afternoon session the divers were ex-

amined more fully than before. Their testimony is taken from day to day. The court has now about finished its work here and is almost ready to sail on the Mangrove for Key West, where the other officers and men will be examined. The session of the court this afternoon was

devoted to taking the testimony of two civilians, Americans, who saw the explosion from the deck of the Ward Line steamer City of Washington, that was moored a few hundred yards from the Maine, and of two divers, who have been at work on the wreck for several days.

It is believed the court will return to Havana after hearing the Key West witnesses, but no official confirmation of this can be obtained. The explosion is no longer the sole topic of conversation, though often referred to. The public here appears to be content to await the report of the Court of Inquiry and to be well assured that nothing except surmise is possible until the report is made. Havana seems normally busy, and the stores are well filled with customers.

The coast survey steamer A. D. Bache, after many delays, left here for the Dry Tortugas this afternoon, with three wounded men, all doing well. Owing to the American quarantine regulations the wounded, having been in hospitals here and exposed to fever, must be taken to hospitals in the Tortugas for quarantine. The names of the wounded on the Bache are John Heffron, of Freemanstown, N. J.; Thomas J Waters, of Philadelphia, and Jeremiah Shea, of Haverhill, Mass. The other wounded are doing well late this evening. Even Holtzer, though sorely wounded, is better, and is making a gallant fight for life. No bodies were recovered to-day from the

wreck. Recent orders from Captain Sigsbee strictly forbid all officers of the Maine to give out any information except to those officially empowered to ask it. The order is generally understood to apply to all official matters, though some think it affects only matters connected with the disaster.

The wrecking tug Right Arm did not g North, as was expected, yesterday. She is now moored beside the poop of the wreck, and will salvage the smaller portions as far as possible in advance of the arrival of other tugs with better facilities for heavy work. The hoisting apparatus must be capable of raising scores of tons in the effective work to be accomplished. The wreck has sunk several feet in the mud already, and will probably continue to settle.

Additional newspaper men arrive with every steamer. The papers of all the large cities in the United States are represented, and the principal hotels are well filled. The skies are bright to-day, and flecked with light clouds. There is a strong breeze blowing, and the tem-

Neither the officers of the Court of Inquiry nor of the testimony or the conclusions deducible from it, and all say that the men employed on the wreck have been warned to observe an equally strict reticence. This course is regarded as eminently wise by the American and all intelligent Spanish officials, as there is no telling what passions might be aroused or what evil results might be brought about by talking freely on official matters in the present state of public feeling in Havana. Thus far Americans are treated with the utmost courtesy and kindness, and it seems the special care of the residents of Havana to show friendliness. Such a state of things is certainly desirable; but it might easily be changed if officers, only partly informed of

the truth, talked for publication. Consul-General Lee says there is no truth in the report that he had asked Captain-General Blanco to dismiss from Cuba certain newspaper men for sending sensational stories to the United States. On the contrary, General Lee has never interfered with the American newspaper men

in any way whatever. To-day the principal streets and buildings are gayly decorated with flags and bunting in honor of the Spanish soldiers, 2,029 infantry men, under the command of José Amador, who arrived this morning by the steamer Montevideo, from Bar-

General Solano, the second Chief of the Staff, to-day returned on board the Mangrove the visit of the Court of Inquiry, acting as the representative of the Governor-General. Admiral Manterola personally returned the visit paid to

him by the Court. The Thursday receptions of General Blanco were resumed this evening.

The insurgents have raided the Smith and Pischer plantation on the Canamabo, in the Trinidad district, and killed one and wounded five of the defenders, who numbered only seven. They burned all the buildings but the dwelling of Mr. Smith, and, according to the Spanish account of the affair, took away or destroyed \$200,000 worth of provisions and merchandise and got \$4,000 in cash.

On Saturday last a party of about forty guerillas left a fort on a farm near Aguacate, about forty miles from this city, "as was their custom," to dine at a neighboring place. In the absence of the guerillas a detachment of about fifteen insuigents occupied the fort, and when the garrison returned from dinner the insurgents fell upon them with machetes and killed twenty-five out of the forty guerillas. The remaining fifteen members of the Government force succeeded in escaping.

SUMMONED TO SECRETARY LONG.

BATTALION GOES TO WASHINGTON.

New-Haven, Conn., Feb. 24.-In response to an order from the Secretary of the Navy, E. G. Buck-land, who commands the Naval Battalion of Connecticut, started for Washington to-day. The or-

der received rend as follows: Commander Buckland of the Wyandotte will re-port to the Navy Department at Washington on Friday.

Although nothing definite as to the import of Mr. Buckland's summons to Washington is known, it is thought that he is to receive instructions about getting his men ready for service at short notice, if the necessity for so doing arises.

which sailed from Bremen on February 14, with merchandise and passengers, to Oeirichs & C was sighted south of Fire Island this morning, ten minutes after midnight.

IT IS IN HONOR OF SENOR POLO Y BER-NABE-DIPLOMATS, MINISTERS AND OTHERS PRESENT-SPANISH WAR TALK.

Madrid, Feb. 24.-The United States Minister, General Stewart L. Woodford, gave a banquet to-day in honor of the new Spanish Minister to Washington, Sefior Polo y Bernabe. In addition to the latter the guests included the Austrian, Russian, French, German, Italian, Turkish, Dutch and British Ministers or Charges d'Affaires and their wives; the Duke of Veragua, the lineal descendant of Columbus, who was the guest of the United States at the time of the Chicago Fair, and the Premier, Sefior Sagasta. There were also present Senor Morot y Prendergast, the Minister for the Colonies, and his wife; Sefior Gullon, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Sefiora Gullon; the Marquis Zarco. the Introducer of Ambassadors; the Countess Sastago. First Lady in Waiting to the Queen Regent; the Duchess of San Carlos, the Marquis Valdo Iglesias, and the staff of the United States Legation.

Much political importance was attached here to the incident, and the banquet, "coupled with the peaceful utterances of President McKinley," according to a semi-official report, was "optimistically utilized by the Ministerial press."

But the "Imparcial" to-day takes the Spanish Government to task for its "apathy, contrasted with the patriotic feeling of the country," and warns the nation against the "hypocritical Yankee policy, which really aims at the independence of Cuba." Continuing the "Imparcial" remarks:

"President McKinley may make and reiterate protestations of friendship and pacific intentions, but his actions contradict his words. While the President of the United States is cajoling us with words he sharpens his dagger to stab us behind. While talking concord he utilizes his Sundays in unusual war preparation at the docks and cancels the furloughs of the marines Can we trust those who are preventing the pacification of Cuba and fomenting rebellion and filibustering expeditions, sending warships under the pretext of friendship and preaching peace? We must prepare for war. There is no time to acquire new warships, but we should fit out immediately what we have, sending the Pelayo, Colon, Carlos V. and Maria Teresa to follow the Almirente Oquendo and Vizcaya to Cuban waters, and the rest of the fleet to guard the Peninsula. Other policy than preparedness is only to play the American's game, which is to exhaust our resources and gain the independence of Cuba without risking anything. How long does the Government mean to favor the American plans? How long will the agonizing nation tolerate the apathy of the Government?" This language, from a semi-official organ, is

The "Pais" frankly declares that Cuban independence is imminent.

CABINET COUNCIL IN MADRID. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN DISCUSSED.

to-day at a Cabinet Council which discussed the relations between Spain and the United States. DE LOME REACHES QUEENSTOWN.

HE TALKS OF THE MAINE DISASTER AND SAYS

Madrid, Feb. 24.-The Queen Regent presided

HE LOVES AMERICA. Queenstown, Feb. 24.-Señor Dupuy de Lôme, former Spanish Minister at Washington, who was a passenger on the White Star steamer Britannic, from New-York, which touched here at 7 o'clock this evening on her way to Liverpool, was interviewed with reference to the disaster to the United States warship Maine in Ha-

vana Harbor.

Señor De Lôme said he could only repeat his was quite impossible for Spaniards to view it in any other light. Spaniards, he declared, wanted peace and not war. He had many friends among the officers of the Maine, and he loved them and America. "Whatever the cause of the accident," said Señor De Lôme, "it could never have been due to the agency of the Span-

WOULD NEVER SELL CUBA. IT WOULD EXPOSE THE MONARCHY TO AN IR-

London, Feb. 25.-The Madrid correspondent of "The Standard" says:

"Spanish statesmen of every shade of opinion are simply amazed and indignant at the idea that Spain would ever consent to sell Cuba. The suggestion would expose the monarchy to an irresistible movement of popular feeling, shared

by the army and navy.

"From a financier's point of view it is equally impossible, because the price suggested would not half cover the Cuban debt, which is almost entirely held by Spaniards."

PUNISHMENT FOR BAKER'S ASSASSINS.

PROMPT ACTION TAKEN BY THE WASHINGTON

Washington, Feb. 24 (Special).-The Administration has taken prompt steps to discover and bring to justice the perpetrators of the cowardly murder of Frazier B. Baker, the fourth-class colored postmaster at Lake City, S. C. Although under the law the murderers are primarily responsible to the outh Carolina authorities, yet the additional crime of burning the postoffice and its contents is punishable in the Federal courts. Postoffice inspectors will be sent to the scene of the murder to make an nvestigation, and if their reports contain any evi-ience on which action may be based the prosecution of the offenders will be undertaken by the De-partment of Justice.

A reward has been offered by the Postoffice Department for information leading to the dis of the persons implicated in the murder of Baker and his family, and the burning of the postoffice. Postmaster-General Gary has issued an order abol-shing the office at Lake City, and directing its justices to be conducted at the nearest convenient

The Postoffice Department has directed Inspector Williams, at Chartanooga, Tenn., to detail another mispector to pro seed to Lake City. S. C., to assist Mr. Moye, who arrived there hast night to conduct the investigation into the murder of Postmaster Baker and the burring of the postoffice. A singular coincidence in the case of Baker is that on February 21, the day before he was murdered he wrote a letter to the Postoffice Department, saying that his life had been threatened and asking that the Government extend some protection to him. This letter was received yesterday afterroon.

Senator McLaurin, of South Carollina, was among Postmaster-General Gary's callers to-day. He expressed his horror at the crime in which Haker lost his life. He asked that the Department use every means at its command to discover the perpetrators of the outrage, and assured Mr. Gary that he would do everything in his power to assist him.

A dispatch was received from Inspector Moye, at Lake City, this afternoon, saying that he was pursuing the investigation directed by the Department. There was no clew to the murderers, and no part of the postoffice property had been recovered. The Coroner's jury which is investigating the case had adjourned until 12 o'clock Saturday.

\*\*RISHOP\_FITZMAURICE\_CONSECRATED.\*\* The Postoffice Department has directed Inspector

PRICE THREE CENTS.

NO INFORMATION ABOUT THE MAINE

DISASTER SUPPRESSED. SECRETARY LONG AGAIN ASKS THE PUBLIC TO

SUSPEND JUDGMENT UNTIL THE COURT OF INQUIRY REPORTS-WORK OF DIVERS ON THE WRECK - CAPTAIN

SIGSBEE'S RECOMMENDA-TIONS APPROVED.

INV TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Washington, Feb. 24.-Rumors of startling discoveries in the wreck of the Maine were less frequent to-day, but there were enough of them still affoat to warrant Secretary Long in making this statement to The Tribune's representative when the Navy Department closed:

"The Department knows nothing more at this minute than it did five minutes after it received Captain Sigsbee's first dispatch. Nothing has come in to-day except the dispatch that has been posted this afternoon. Captain Crowninshield has not been to Cuba. He has been off with his boy on matters in nowise connected Earlier in the day, when the Secretary learned

that an impression was being created that the Department was suppressing information concerning the disaster, he wrote the following:

Navy Department, Washington, D. C.,
February 24, 1898.

No telegram has been received from either Admiral Sicard or Captains Sampson or Signete vesterday, and the Department has received no information with regard to the disaster that has not already been made public. The Department is waiting the result of the inquiry, and public opinion should be suspended until some official information is received.

JOHN D. LONG.

REPORT FROM CAPTAIN SIGSBEE. The dispatch to which Secretary Long re ferred as having been posted was received at 3 o'clock, as follows:

o'clock, as follows:

Havana, February 24, 1898.

Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

Wrecking tug Right Arm arrived yesterday.
Begins work to-day. Much encumbering metal must be blasted away in detail. Navy divers down aft seven days, forward four days. Bodies of Jenkins and Merritt not found. Two unidentified bodies of crew found yesterday. After compartments filled with detached, broken and buoyant furniture and fittings, mud and confusion. Spanish authorities continue offers of assistance and care for wounded and dead. Everything that goes from wreck to United States should be disinfected. Wrecking company should provide for this. Surgeon of the Maine, after should be disinfected. Wrecking company should provide for this. Surgeon of the Maine, after consultation with others, recommended that all bedding and clothing should be abandoned. Might go to acclimated poor. Useless fittings and equipment might be towed to sea and thrown overboard. Will take all immediate responsibility, but invite Department's wishes. Shall old metal of superstructure and the like be saved? Friends of dead should understand that we are in the tropics. Chapiain Chidwick charged with all matters relative to the dead. His conduct is beyond praise. Don't know what reports are being printed, but the intensely active representatives of the press here have been very considerate of me and my position.

THE RECOMMENDATIONS APPROVED.

Secretary Long immediately answered Captain Sigsbee, approving all his recommendations, He was directed to have Lieutenant Wainwright, the executive officer of the Maine, make arrangements with the wreckers for the disinfection of everything sent to the United States, The recommendation that all bedding and clothing be abandoned and if need be given to the acclimated poor, was approved without comment. The same approval was given to the suggestion that useless fittings and equipment be towed to sea and thrown overboard, it being left to Captain Sigsbee's judgment to determine

how far this destruction should be carried on. To the Captain's inquiry as to the saving of old metal and parts of the superstructure the answer was given that such material was of no use to the Bureau of Equipment. left to Captain Sigsbee to say what of this statement that much blasting will be required to clear away encumbering material indicates that it is essential further to destroy the upper portions of the wreck in order to get at what

is more valuable beneath. have been down aft seven days and forward four days gave the Navy Department the first information of the time that the divers had been in the vicinity of the "zone of explosion," as he has termed it. This zone is confined to the forward part of the ship, and while the divers have been down aft for the last week, their work near the forward magazine has been in progress only four days, which presumably be-

gan on Monday and included to-day. BODIES CANNOT BE BROUGHT HOME. The statement in Captain Sigsbee's dispatch that "friends of the dead should understand we are in the tropics" is understood at the Navy Department to refer to the urgent pleas of relatives of the dead that the bodies be brought to the United States. These appeals continue to be received here, and while they excite the deepest sympathy of officials, no hope can be held out that the bodies can be brought back. One of these appeals makes a pitiful plea against the burying of the dead "by alien hands in an alien country."

There are circumstances which, if they could be made known, would end such appeals and would show that the Department has not been wanting in a desire to bring the bodies to this country. These circumstances have been withheld, nainly through a desire to save friends and relatives from the pain which would be caused by a full disclosure of the effect of the explosion. The press reports have given in part the terrible mutilation of the bodies, but it is feared this has not been fully realized by friends and relatives. The men were sleeping on the berth deck, with metal floors and ceilings, which, by the force of the terrific explosion, were ground into a confused mass. Knowing this, there is little hope that many of the bodies still missing will be found, or, if found, that they will be in a condition to be brought to the

United States CAPTAIN CROWNINSHIELD'S JOURNEY.

The reference to Captain Crowninshield, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, was brought out by questions asked that officer, which were first raised in The Tribune of last Wednesday. Captain Crowninshteld was in command of the Maine until last April, when he was relieved by Captain Sigsbee, and since that time has had the rank of commodors at the head of the most important naval bureau and practically chief of the Secretary's staff. and practically chief of the Secretary's staff, He went away several weeks ago, on leave, af-fairs being exceedingly quiet at the time. Yes-terday he was landed at Tampa by the cruiser Montgomery, and this, in connection with the secrecy which has been manifested by naval officials regarding his absence, quickly gave rise to sensational stories, attaching to him, in some instances, the dignity of a mission of the high-er character to the leaders of the Cuban in-

of the postoffice property had been recovered. The Coroner's jury which is investigating the case had adjourned until 12 o'clock Saturday.

BISHOP FITZMAURICE CONSECRATED.

Philadelphia, Feb. 21.—With solemn and impressive ceremonies and in the presence of a large assemblage of the laity and Catholic clergy, the Rev. Dr. John E. Fitzmaurice, formerly rector of the Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo at Overbrook, was to-day consecrated Bishop Coadjutor of the Glocese of Eric. The services were held in the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul. Among those in attendance was Monsignor Martinelli, the Papsal Delegate. Archbishop Ryan presided, assisted by Rishop Prendergast, of Philadelphia, and Bishop Horstmann, of Cleveland. The sermon was preached by Coadjutor Bishop Hoban, of Seranton.

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